(d) whether the new rule would come into effect from January, 2006?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS (SHRI SURESH PACHOURI): (a) and (b) Fourteen closed Holidays and two Restricted Holidays.

(c) and (d) Holidays Policy in respect of the Central Government Administrative Offices is under review. The new policy as and when finalised, will come into force from a prospective date.

New Annual Scheme for work assessment of IAS Officer

†981. SHRI MOTILAL VORA:
SHRIMATI PREMA CARIAPPA:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Prime Minister had approved a New Annual Scheme for the assessment of works done by IAS Officers;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) by when this provision would be made applicable?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS (SHRI SURESH PACHOURI): (a) to (c) Prime Minister has approved the broad contours of the system of performance appraisal report recommended by the Surinder Nath Committee with certain modifications. These, *inter alia,* include use of the performance appraisal for career planning and training, preparation of work plan, health check up, numerical grading, integrity certificate, maintenance of comprehensive Personal Dossier, recommendations for domain assignment and constitution of Referral Board to decide representations from officers on performance assessment. The replacement of the earlier system with the new one requires amendment to the existing rules. No date has been fixed for introducing the New Scheme.

Mid-career training programme

982. SHRI ANAND SHARMA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are considering a proposal of mid-career training programmes for Central Secretariat Services officers and also sending

†Original notice of question was received in Hindi.

select batches of officers to reputed international management institutes; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and the scheduled date of commencement?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS (SHRI SURESH PACHOURI): (a) and (b) With a view to devising a comprehensive Training Programme for proper and systematic training of the officers belonging to the Central Secretariat Service for their career growth and development, a Committee of Senior Officers was set up by the Government in August, 2001. The Committee submitted its report in February, 2005, which is presently under examination.

Exclusion of PSUs from the purview of Right to Information

983. SHRI RAJEEV SHUKLA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government are planning to exclude Public Sector Undertakings including banks and Insurance Companies from the purview of the Right to Information Act, 2005; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS (SHRI SURESH PACHOURI): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

Departmental examination for Section Officers

984. SHRI KARNENDU BHATTACHARJEE: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to refer to answer to Unstarred Question 2610 given in Rajya Sabha on 18th August, 2005 and state:

(a) whether a reference to UPSC for reconsideration of the decision and to hold Limited Departmental Competitive Examination (LDCE) 2005 for Section Officers and Private Secretaries has since been made by Department of Personnel and Training to Union Public Service Commission;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(d) the reaction of UPSC to the reference, if any received?